WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An arteriosclerosis evaluating apparatus for evaluating an arteriosclerosis of a living subject based on a form of a pulse wave detected from the subject, the apparatus comprising:

an inflatable cuff which is adapted to be worn on a body portion of the subject;

a cuff-pressure changing device which changes a pressure in the cuff;

a cuff-pulse-wave detecting device which detects a cuff pulse wave as a pressure oscillation that is transmitted from the subject to the cuff; and

an output device which outputs the cuff pulse wave detected by the cuff-pulse-wave detecting device in a state in which the pressure of the cuff is made higher than a systolic blood pressure of said body portion of the subject by the cuff-pressure changing device.

2.   An arteriosclerosis evaluating apparatus, comprising:

an inflatable cuff which is adapted to be worn on a body portion of a living subject;

a cuff-pressure changing device which changes a pressure in the cuff;

a cuff-pulse-wave detecting device which detects a cuff pulse wave as a pressure oscillation that is transmitted from

the subject to the cuff; and

a waveform-pattern determining means for determining a waveform pattern corresponding to a form of a high-frequency component of the cuff pulse wave detected by the cuff-pulse-wave detecting device in a state in which the pressure of the cuff is made higher than a systolic blood pressure of said body portion of the subject by the cuff-pressure changing device, according to a predetermined relationship between form of high-frequency component of pulse wave, and waveform pattern corresponding to degree of arteriosclerosis.

3. An arteriosclerosis evaluating apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the predetermined relationship comprises a predetermined relationship between respective forms of percussion and tidal waves of pulse wave, and waveform pattern.

4. An arteriosclerosis evaluating apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a memory which stores the predetermined relationship.

5. An arteriosclerosis evaluating apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising an output device which outputs at least one of (a) the cuff pulse wave detected by the cuff-pulse-wave detecting device in the state in which the pressure of the cuff is made higher than the systolic blood pressure of said body portion of the subject by the cuff-pressure

changing device and (b) the waveform pattern determined by the waveform-pattern determining means.

6. An arteriosclerosis evaluating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the output device outputs each of (a) the cuff pulse wave detected by the cuff-pulse-wave detecting device in the state in which the pressure of the cuff is made higher than the systolic blood pressure of said body portion of the subject by the cuff-pressure changing device and (b) the waveform pattern determined by the waveform-pattern determining means.

7. An arteriosclerosis evaluating apparatus, comprising:

an inflatable cuff which is adapted to be worn on a body portion of a living subject;

a cuff-pressure changing device which changes a pressure in the cuff;

a cuff-pulse-wave detecting device which detects a cuff pulse wave as a pressure oscillation that is transmitted from the subject to the cuff; and

a waveform-pattern determining device which determines a waveform-pattern corresponding to a form of a high-frequency component of the cuff pulse wave detected by the cuff-pulse-wave detecting device in a state in which the pressure of the cuff is made higher than a systolic blood pressure of said body portion of the subject by the cuff-pressure changing device,

according to a predetermined relationship between form of high-frequency component of pulse wave, and waveform pattern corresponding to degree of arteriosclerosis.